

USPS Pro Cycling in full swing

As the first American to cross the finish line, USPS Pro Cycling Team member Chann McRae earned the title of U.S. Pro Champion and the right to wear the Stars and Stripes jersey.

McRae finished second behind Canadian Mark Walters in the First Union U.S. Pro Championship, June 6 in Philadelphia.

Meanwhile in France, the USPS team got off to a strong start Sunday in the Dauphine Libre, with Lance Armstrong and Steffen Kjaergaard finishing in the top five.

Thirst quencher

Thirsty for info? Stop by WebEIS – USPS's one-stop information shop.

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Stamp Out Hunger

10th annual NALC food drive collects 62.7 million pounds of food.

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Convenience

Employee self-service is available on Blue.

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Yellow Pages

Easy access to media and government contacts.

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Good (year) deals

Participating dealers offer employees discount.

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Postscripts

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Stamp out hunger

Letter carriers collected 62.7 million pounds of food donations on May 11 in the 10th annual NALC “Stamp Out Hunger” food drive.

NALC President Vince Sombrotto said, “These donations will help millions of children and adults have a brighter and healthier summer.”

Priority Mail and Campbell Soup supported the event which has become the nation’s largest one-day drive.

All donations were delivered to local food banks to help needy families.

WebEIS: It’s USPS’s one-stop information shop

WASHINGTON — Information drives our organization. So where do you get the good info you need to make sound decisions about workhours, budgets and performance? WebEIS, of course. The Web Enterprise Information System. The one-stop shop for USPS information maintained by the folks in Information Technology.

■ If you need charts and graphs for any of 1,700 USPS performance indicators that cover 39 corporate measurement systems, WebEIS is the place. You can get bar graphs and color-coded comparisons on delivery performance, customer satisfaction, revenue, workhours, accidents and many other areas, by quarter, AP, week and day.

■ The system provides users with the latest data — the moment it is entered into USPS databases. Want to compare this year to SPY? WebEIS has that, too.

■ You can sort by 3-digit ZIP Code, finance number and even 5-digit ZIP Code for some indicators. Data can be downloaded in Excel, Access or Word. “WebEIS gives postal managers easy access to current information they need to manage in today’s performance-driven culture,” said Bob Otto, V.P. of Information Technology.

■ Need to look at the same indicators every day but don’t want to go through the set-up process each time? WebEIS lets users save customized views that automatically update when they’re accessed.

■ Another feature, the “Dashboard” viewer, lets users monitor their performance data with the click of a mouse. And, WebEIS just expanded to include the National Performance Assessment module – a national report card of individual performance results for area vice presidents and district managers.

■ To get to WebEIS go to <http://blue.usps.gov> then <http://webeis>.

LINKMAIL

Terrance Vraniak, Fairbanks, AK: With the implementation of the new rate increase, USPS should consider revamping the Post Office Box fee structure for non-city delivery offices. To my knowledge, post offices without city delivery capability should provide General Delivery service – one form of “free delivery.” With that in mind, an actual Post Office Box should be considered a premium service and at a minimum, fee group # 7 should be charged. This would help cut down on record keeping and other work involved with maintaining a Post Office Box. It also could stabilize the overall Post Office Box rates a little longer.

Want service? Serve yourself... on the USPS intranet, Blue

WASHINGTON — Need service? Serve yourself! USPS employees can now change their federal W4 withholding information via *PostalEASE*. This new function joins a host of other human resource applications available through the Employee Self Service page on the USPS Intranet at <http://blue.usps.gov>.

■ In addition to changing Federal Form W4, *PostalEASE* offers access to the Thrift Savings Plan, Flexible Savings Account, Annual Leave Account, Allotments/Net-to-Bank and Pay For Performance.

■ Other Web-based options are available under Employee Self Service. Select “Employee Change of Address” and you’ll find Employee Emergency Contact and Employee Home Phone. There’s even a new offering – Employee Training Report.

■ And, employees with access to computerized job bidding can now update their emergency contact information online by clicking on the Employee Information Job/Personal tab then selecting “Display/Update Employee Information.”

■ It’s self-service at its best.

LINKMAIL**Juli Sheffield, Indianapolis,**

IN: I have heard a lot of grumbling about the rate increase that will take effect at the end of the month. I suggest that USPS prepare and deliver a a postcard to all delivery addresses with an example of other types of increases versus the history of postal rate increases. Examples could show the cost differences among certain products among between 1950 and 2002, such as a gallon of gasoline, a soda, a loaf of bread, a phone call or a plane ticket. Perhaps even an example of what it costs to deliver mail in various countries.

Important numbers at your fingertips

WASHINGTON — Need to find local media contacts? The Yellow Books can help.

■The USPS Corporate Library announces that the Leadership Library – called Yellow Books – are now available in electronic form at www.blue.usps.gov/library/.

■Previous technical difficulties have been resolved. The website is now a navigational wonder! Try it. We think you'll like it.

■Information in this 14-directory tool is updated daily, contains over 400,000 individuals and over 40,000 enterprises and provides the most current information on institutional leadership in the U.S.

■The directories feature U.S. government, business, professional and nonprofit organizations.

Good deal Goodyear

WASHINGTON — Planning a road trip this summer? Don't hit the highway until after you've visited your local Goodyear dealer where USPS employees can get an oil change and lube, new tires, or even a tune-up at a discount.

■Goodyear dealers participating in the USPS VIP Program are offering employees an oil change for \$14.95; 15% off automotive services; and 10% off Goodyear brand tires. Percentage discounts are off of sale, everyday low or retail prices — whichever is lower. The program also offers a VIP credit card to all USPS employees.

■More information about the Goodyear VIP program is available at <http://blue.usps.gov/purchase/EmployeePrograms/GYprogHP.htm> or call 1-800-321-2136.

LINKMAIL



Suzanne Valdez, Federal Executive Board, St. Louis, MO: The *Heroes of 2001* dedication on Friday was a first-class event!

Send us a linkletter.

Ideas and comments are welcome.

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- **DOFFED HAT.** The Brentwood, NY, post office recently recognized 83 Long Island employees who helped in the aftermath of Sept. 11 by driving fire and rescue vehicles, covering fire stations and volunteering at Ground Zero. Others helped the Red Cross by distributing food and supplies to volunteers. Many were military reservists called to active duty.
- **MONEY BACK.** Unisys will pay USPS nearly \$900,000 to settle false claims for Y2K over billing, says the Office of Inspector General. Unisys was one of several contractors hired to ensure postal computer systems would be Y2K compliant. Tipped off by whistleblower allegations, the OIG found that Unisys billed USPS for contract work not performed or performed by unqualified employees.
- **TORT MOBILE.** USPS's Law Department has transferred processing of tort claims to the new National Tort Center in St. Louis. All tort claims previously forwarded to the Law Department at headquarters should be sent directly to the National Tort Center at P.O. Box 66640, St. Louis, MO 63166-6640. Questions? Call the National Tort Center at 314-872-5120.
- **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** All post offices are reminded to follow established HAZMAT procedures and to ask customers this important, mandatory question: *"Does the parcel (item, article) contain anything liquid, fragile, perishable, or potentially hazardous?"* This question is required for all parcels and any mailpiece where hazardous materials are suspected.
- **NEXT LINK.** Friday, June 14.